(c) During 9th Five Year Plan total 53 projects were sanctioned for Andhra Pradesh. Some of them are as follows:

Refurbishment of Monuments at Quli Qutab Shahi Tomb at Hyderabad, Heritage Interpretation Centre at Golconda, Signages at Hyderabad, Illumination of Pagoh Tomb Hyderabad, Pedestrian Landscape improvement at Charminar, Hyderabad.

Development of Buddhist Centres in Andhra Pradesh

2130. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is historical evidence of Buddhism at several places of Andhra Pradesh, particularly Nagarjuna Sagar, Bhattiprolu, Amaravathi, etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that by developing these places tourism can be encouraged and a lot of foreign exchange can be earned; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to develop these tourism spots?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government is also aware that development of these places is good for tourism growth. The ASI has already introduced ticket system for entry at two places viz. at Amaravati and Nagarjunakonda levying Rs. 5.00 each for Indian visitor and $ 2 or Rs. 100.00 each for foreign visitors.

(c) Since these sites are protected by ASI, regular conservation works are being carried out by them to keep them in presentable condition.

Development Garhmukteshwar as a tourist place

†2131. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop religious city Garhmukteshwar as a tourist place;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.